Quality of air tickets

1941. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints with regard to the quality of the air tickets used by the Indian Airlines so much so that the impression on the counterfoil is either un-decipherable or does not appear;

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the matter to bring about improvement in the quality of air tickets; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is proposed to extend computerised ticketing facility to as many locations as possible, as well as to make efforts to improve the quality of tickets.

Purchase of aircrafts by Air India

1942. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has decided to purchase four 747-400 aircraft during 1993-94;

(b) if so, what will be the total expenditure involved in the purchase of Boeing 747-400 Aircraft and three A-310 Airbuses;

(c) what is the total strength of Air India fleet at present;

(d) what is the shortage if any, felt;

(e) what steps are being taken to improve the efficiency and also the to reduce the rush of passengers; and

(f) to what extent AI has been able to meet the demands of the passengers?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Out of the four Boeing 747-400 aircraft, for which Air India signed a purchase agreement in 1991, three aircraft have already been delivered to Air India in 1993. The total approved cost of acquisition of four Boeing 747-400 aircraft with spares, spare engine etc. is Rs. 2333.33 crores. During 1993-94 no A-310-300 aircraft is being added to the Air India fleet.

(c) Air India fleet consists of twenty five aircraft at present.

(d) to (f) Air India has been experiencing a shortage of capacity in some routes. Air India's share of the market to/from India is estimated to be around 26% in 1992-93. Air India plans to increase its market share by inducting more aircraft and also upgrading its product. This will help Air India to improve its on-time performance and offer better facilities to passengers.

Committee to examine exgratia payment to World War II veterans

1943. SHRI A NALLASIVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Committee was set up under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary of Defence Ministry to examine, among other things, the question of Ex-gratia payment to World War-II veterans;

(b) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, whether any decision has been taken by Government on the report;

(d) if so, the nature of decision taken by Government; and

(e) if the reply to part (c) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The recommendations of the Committee are being processed and a decision thereon is likely to be taken shortly.

Memorandum regarding problems of cantonment Board, Danapur

1944. SHRI CIBON ROY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several Members of Bihar Legislative Council and Members of Cantonment Board, Danapur have submitted a memorandum regarding

the problems of Cantonment Board, Danapur to the Prime Minister of India and to the Minister of State for Defence on the 5th October, 1993 ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) what are the details of action taken by Government to obviate the problems ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to (c) A representation dated 4-10-1993 from Shri Mohd. Moin Ansari, addressed to the Prime Minister and forwarded by Shri Fida Hussain Ansari, MLA Bihar Legislative Council on 5-10-1993 has been received. The representation seeks Central assistance to overcome problems relating to conversion of dry latrines into water borne system, repair of roads and drains, augmentation of water supply, improvement of sanitation and construction of a residence for the Cantonment Executive Officer.

The Central Government has been regularly sanctioning ordinary grants-in-aid to the Cantonment Board, Danapur to enable it to run the civic administration. The Government had sanctioned special grants-in-aid of Rs. 14,86,292.00 during 1990-91, out of which Rs. 6,86,292.00 were meant for repairs of roads and drains.

The Cantonment Board, Danapur has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 6,33,400.00 and Rs. 3,17,892.00 during 1990-91 and 1991-92 respectively, on repair of roads and drains.

The Cantonment Board has constructed group latrines in 7 areas having 45 seats. Also 4 group latrines having 50 seats have been constructed in the Cantonment under the Ganga Action Plan. The Board has constructed septic tanks in common areas and have asked the owners of private residences to connect thein dry latrines to the septic tanks.

Garbage and night soil is being disposed off by the Cantonment Board by trenching for which one truck and four tractor-trollies are used.

As regards water supply, the per capita availability is reported to be adequate. The Board is operating 5 over-head tanks which together supply about 9 lakh ltrs. of water per day. No specific proposal has been forwarded by the Cantonment Board for purchase of generators for augmenting water supply.

It has not been possible for the Cantonment Board to take up construction of an alternate residential accommodation for the Cantonment Executive Officer on account of paucity of funds.

Roads damaged in Cantonment Board, Bihar

1945. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that due to floods, roads and drains in the Cantonment Board, Bihar have been badly damaged ; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to repair them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) There are 2 Cantonments, namely, Danapur and Ramgarh, in Bihar. There is no report of damage to roads and drains in Ramgarh Cantonment due to floods. As regards Danapur Cantonment, certain damages were caused to roads and drains in the recent past. During 1990-91, the Central Government had sanctioned special grants-in-aid of Rs. 6,86,292.00 to enable the Cantonment Board to undertake special repairs of roads and drains. As a result of Central aid, the Cantonment Board has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 6,33,400.00 and Rs. 3,17,892.00 during 1990-91 and 1991-92 respectively, on repairs of roads and drains.

Encroachment in the area of Cantonment Board, Danapur

1946. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the entire vacant space within Danapur Cantonment Board, Bihar has been encroached by anti-social elements in connivance with the cantonment Board's staff ; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take for removing the encroachments in the public interest and against the